

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method which comprises:

investing by a pension plan of at least a portion of one or more assets of the pension plan so as to acquire an ownership interest in a selected plurality set of current, in-force life settlement contracts sold by owners of the current, in-force life settlement contracts, wherein each of the plurality set of current, in-force life settlement contracts is characterized in that it either (a) provides a plurality of periodic payments during a life of an insured or (b) provides a single death benefit on the life of the insured, and is selected so that the insured is not a beneficiary of the pension plan, and is selected so that a respective remaining life expectancy of each of the respective insureds is within a predetermined limit;

calculating, by a computing apparatus, periodically by the pension plan or having calculated, by means of a computing apparatus, for each of a plurality of the respective life settlement contracts, an actuarial present value for every out year through a final year of an actuarial table appropriate to a respective insured of the respective life settlement contract, with parameters for the calculating comprising: a probability that the respective insured will die during such year, an interest rate, and a death benefit for the respective life settlement contract;

summing, by the computing apparatus, or having summed by a computing apparatus, the actuarial present value for every out year through the final year of the actuarial table appropriate to the respective insured, to obtain an actuarial present value for the respective life settlement contract;

determining, by the computing apparatus, or having determined by a computing apparatus, a total value of pension plan assets, including the actuarial present value of the plurality of life settlement contracts, with the a-total value of the pension plan assets inclusive of the ownership interest in the selected plurality set of current, in-force life settlement contracts so acquired, to thereby converting ~~convert~~ a value of the assets of the pension plan used to acquire the ownership interest in the selected plurality set of current, in-force life settlement contracts into an actuarial present value of the ownership interest in the selected plurality set of current, in-force life settlement contracts, wherein the actuarial present value

~~is calculated using a method to increase a value of the ownership interest in each of a plurality of the acquired current, in-force life settlement contracts at each calculation period as a probability of death of a respective insured associated with a respective one of the life settlement contracts increases and the death of the respective insured has not occurred;~~

calculating, by the computing apparatus, or having calculated by a computing apparatus, a difference between a total value of the pension plan assets and liabilities of the pension plan to obtain an unfunded actuarial accrued liability; and

maintaining by the pension plan or having maintained enforceability of the selected plurality set of current, in-force life settlement contracts and processing or having processed death benefits arising from the life settlement contracts.

2. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 27, wherein each of the one or more life settlement contracts is characterized in that it provides a single death benefit on the life of an insured.

3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein the remaining life expectancy of the insureds under the life settlement contracts is no more than 20 years.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the remaining life expectancy of the insureds under the life settlement contracts is no more than 15 years.

Claims 5 – 22 are cancelled.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the investing step comprises investing in an ownership interest in a pool of current, in-force life settlement contracts.

~~24. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 23, wherein the pool of~~  
current, in-force life settlement contracts are life settlement contracts obtained and made available for acquisition by a third party and wherein the third party maintains or has maintained the enforceability of the selected plurality set of current, in-force life settlement contracts and processes or has processed death benefits arising from the life settlement contracts.

25. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:  
setting a selection criterion for the selected plurality ~~set~~ of current, in-force life  
settlement contracts that there will be no relative concentration of dollar value amount  
attributable to a single insurer or carrier.

26. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:  
administering the pension plan on an approximately regular basis to perform the  
investing and calculating steps to thereby reduce an unfunded actuarial accrued liability  
(UAL) and/or reduce any corresponding UAL amortization.

27. (Cancelled)